



## The Municipal EcoLink

An e-bulletin from the NH Department of Environmental Services

**August 2014**

*The Municipal EcoLink* is a monthly e-bulletin designed to inform you of the latest environmental ideas, trends, grants, rules and more from the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES). We respectfully request that the following is electronically distributed or otherwise made available to your municipal committees, councils and boards. Please feel free to post it on your municipal website as well. You may read past issues at [The Municipal EcoLink](#)

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### **Solid Waste Operator Certification Program**

The Solid Waste Operator Certification Program has added two workshops to the Fall schedule. Leslie Cartier, Hazardous Materials Coordinator for the NH Fire Marshal's Office, will talk about potential hazards in the solid waste stream, including meth lab components. His presentation will address how to identify such dangers, and the proper way to react. The program will be offered two times: Tuesday, September 30 and Thursday, November 20. Register for either class with Nelson Ordway at 271-2925 or [nelson.ordway@des.nh.gov](mailto:nelson.ordway@des.nh.gov). Reminder: operators must renew annually, and the late period is limited to 90 days from expiration; after that, they must take part in basic training and testing in order to recertify.

### **Management Training for Drinking Water and Wastewater Utilities to be offered in 2015**

NHDES, the NH Water Pollution Control Assoc. and NH Water Works Assoc. are again offering a training program for drinking water and wastewater managers and supervisors. It will be held once a month, March through November 2015, in Concord, N.H. Topics will include the regulatory environment in New Hampshire, conflict management, budgeting, employee relations and public speaking. Applications must be completed and submitted to NHDES by November 15, 2014. A limited number of applicants will be selected. Application forms and information are at:

<http://www.des.state.nh.us/organization/divisions/water/web/documents/boot-camp-app.pdf>

### **Clean Cities Stakeholder Meeting on Propane and Hydrogen Vehicles, September 30 9:00-11:30 a.m., NHDES Offices, 29 Hazen Drive, Concord.**

Is your town or city considering adding pick-up trucks or school buses that run on clean, less costly, domestic propane? Tom Murray of Pugliese Contracting will talk about his transition to a propane fueled fleet. Tom will have two of his vehicles with him! Wes Hanson of Nuvera will also present on his hydrogen powered Toyota Highlander. All are welcome. RSVP - Dolores Rebolledo ([dolores.rebolledo@des.nh.gov](mailto:dolores.rebolledo@des.nh.gov)).

### **FREE Natural Gas Vehicle Workshop – October 2**

**8:00 am. To 4:00 p.m., NHDES Offices, 29 Hazen Drive, Concord.**

*Natural Gas Vehicles – The Here and Now Technology.* This free workshop will highlight the cost and emissions benefits of natural gas vehicles and take you step-by-step in the process of transitioning a fleet to CNG and LNG. Vendor tables and a vehicle display, too! [Click here to register!](#)

### **Free Biodiesel Mechanic Training - October 6**

The Granite State Clean Cities Coalition is offering a free biodiesel mechanic training half-day workshop at NHDES, 29 Hazen Drive, Concord, NH 8:00 a.m. to noon on October 6, 2014. Register at

<http://xml2.des.state.nh.us/DES-Seminar/BioDiesel.aspx>

### **Asset Management workshop to be offered in October 2014**

NHDES is hosting an Asset Management Workshop-“Get the Wheels Turning” at 29 Hazen Drive, Concord, NH on October 23, 2014. This training will provide Water and Wastewater operators & managers with an overview of asset management best practices. Learn how these utilities got started and identify possible funding sources to make an asset management program your reality.

Registrations must be completed and submitted to NHDES by October 9, 2014. Forms and information are at <http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/asset-management/index.htm>

### **Asset Management Planning Grant Program**

The NHDES Drinking Water and Groundwater Bureau is pleased to announce the third round of the Asset Management Planning Grant program. This grant is intended to assist community water systems in

developing an asset management plan. The program will provide community water systems a 50% matching grant up to \$15,000 to conduct asset management initiatives.

Applications will be accepted until November 28, 2014. Eligible systems include Community Water Systems serving a population of 500 or greater. An information packet and application are available on the DWGB website at <http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/asset-management/index.htm> under Grant/Loans. Feel free to contact Luis Adorno at 271-2472 or [luis.adorno@des.nh.gov](mailto:luis.adorno@des.nh.gov) if you have any questions or would like to discuss your proposal.

### **Change in Procedure for Submitting Wetlands Dredge and Fill Permit Applications to NHDES**

As of June 17, 2014, town and city clerks are no longer required to mail Wetland Dredge and Fill permit application forms to NHDES. Town and city clerks are now only required to sign and certify that the municipality in which the property is located has received four copies of the application form and attachments. After the town or city clerks signs and certifies receipt of the application form and attachments, the applicant is responsible for either mailing or hand delivering the original permit application form and attachments to NHDES. Permit application forms can be hand delivered to NHDES during normal business hours; Monday through Friday, 8am to 4pm.

Town or city clerks must still ensure a copy of the permit application form and attachment are provided to the local governing body, and, if any, the municipal planning board and the municipal conservation commission. The town or city clerk must also retain one copy of the permit application form and attachments to be made reasonably accessible to the public. If you have questions about this new procedure, please call (603) 271-2147.

### **Clean Diesel Project Grants NOW AVAILABLE**

NHDES announces the availability of federal Diesel Emission Reduction Grant (DERA) funds through the Air Resources Division. This is a continuation of the popular federal grant program that began in 2008. To date, NHDES has awarded over \$900,000 for projects ranging from idle reduction equipment retrofits to new vehicle purchases. For more information, click [here](#), or contact [Felice.Janelle@des.nh.gov](mailto:Felice.Janelle@des.nh.gov).

### **Source Water Protection Grants**

The 2015 Local Source Water Protection grant application is now available at [http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/dwgb/dwspp/lswp\\_grants.htm](http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/dwgb/dwspp/lswp_grants.htm). Funding is available to develop and implement projects to protect existing sources of public drinking water. Applicants can receive up to \$20,000 for projects to protect drinking water sources, including watershed planning, delineation of protection areas, assessment of threats to water supply sources, implementation, and source security. Descriptions of projects previously funded by this grant program are available on the program's webpage. Please contact Kelsey Vaughn at 271-2950 or [kelsey.vaughn@des.nh.gov](mailto:kelsey.vaughn@des.nh.gov) or Pierce Rigrod at 271-0688 or [pierce.rigrod@des.nh.gov](mailto:pierce.rigrod@des.nh.gov) if you have any questions or would like to discuss your proposal.

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